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KERALA GAZETTE

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NOTIFICATION

No. 1546-LA4./58. *Dated, Trivandrum, 23rd June 1958.*

The following Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is published, as ordered by the Speaker under Rule 73 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Assembly.

Legislature Secretariat,
Trivandrum.

V. KRISHNAMOORTHI,
Secretary, Legislative Assembly.

L. A. Bill No. 24 of 1958.

THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN HINDU RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.

A

Bill

further to amend the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950.

Preamble.—WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

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Be it enacted in the Ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title.*—This Act may be called the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions (Amendment) Act, 1958.

2. *Amendment of section 4.*—For sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950 (Act XV of 1950) (hereinafter referred to as "the Principal Act"), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) The Board referred to in section 3 shall consist of three Hindu members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Ruler of Travancore, one by the Hindus among the Council of Ministers and one elected by the Hindus among the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala".

3. *Substitution of new section for section 5.*—For section 5 of the Principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

"5. *Procedure for the election of member to the Board.*—A meeting of the Hindus among the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala shall be summoned under the authority of the Governor of Kerala by any person authorised in this behalf by the Governor of Kerala to meet at such time and place and on such date as may be fixed by him in this behalf for the election of a member to the Board. The election shall be held in accordance with the rules specified in Schedule II by the person commissioned by the Governor of Kerala to preside over the meeting".

4. *Substitution of new section for section 63.*—For section 63 of the Principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

"63. *Constitution of the Cochin Devaswom Board.*—The Board referred to in sub-section (1) of Section 62 shall consist of three Hindu members, one of whom shall be nominated by the Ruler of Cochin, one by the Hindus among the Council of Ministers and one elected by the Hindus among the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala".

5. *Substitution of new section for section 64.*—For Section 64 of the Principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

"64. *Procedure for the election of member to the Board.*—A meeting of the Hindus among the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala shall be summoned under the authority of the Governor of Kerala by any person authorised in this behalf by the Governor of Kerala to meet at such time and place and on such date as may be fixed by him in this behalf for the election of a member to the Board. The election shall be held in accordance with the rules specified in Schedule II by the person commissioned by the Governor of Kerala to preside over the meeting.

6. *Amendment of Schedule II.*—In Schedule II to the principal Act, for rule 3, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:—

"3. Any Hindu member of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala may nominate a duly qualified person who is not subject to any disqualification for election as the member of the Board by delivering to the Chairman between the hours fixed by the Chairman for the receipt of nomination papers a nomination paper signed by the proposer and another Hindu member of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala as seconder and stating the name of the person nominated. The person nominated shall affix his signature to the nomination paper before it is delivered to the Chairman, stating that he is willing to serve as a member of the Board, if elected".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The administration of the incorporated and unincorporated Devaswoms and certain Hindu Religious Endowments in the Travancore and Cochin areas is vested in the Travancore Devaswom Board and the Cochin Devaswom Board respectively. One member each of these Boards is to be elected by the Hindu members of the Travancore-Cochin Assembly and one member each is to be nominated by the Hindus among the Council of Ministers.

Doubts are entertained whether it will be competent for the Hindu Members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly from the Malabar area of the State to participate in the election of the members of the Boards. Since it is considered that the members coming from Malabar area should also be given a right to participate in the election it is necessary to amend the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950, so that all the Hindu members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly may form the electorate for the purpose. The Bill is intended to achieve this object.

K. R. GOURI.

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